

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
STATE OF MONTANA

BRIAN SCHWEITZER
GOVERNOR



JOHN BOHLINGER
LT. GOVERNOR

RECEIVED on agenda
JUN 14 2007 6/26

Ravalli County Commissioners

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TO: County Commissioners
FROM: Brian Schweitzer, Governor
DATE: June 13, 2007
SUBJECT: Public Law 106-393

I am writing to inform you that United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service Division, has requested that the enclosed "Election Form" be completed to facilitate forestry payment.

The Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, Public Law 106-393 October 30, 2000, commonly known as Payments to States, was extended for one year in P.L. 110-28 and will expire, September 30, 2007.

This law requires that counties in each state record their percentage elections for Title I, Title II, and Title III funds. Pursuant to P.L. 106-393, the following format is to provide for proper payment to counties that elected to receive their share of forestry reserve payments. Therefore, please fax the completed form to Mark Bruno at 444-4670, no later than August 15, 2007. ✓ on agenda

The following page contains the elections from last year.

I sincerely appreciate your immediate attention in this matter. If you have any questions, or need further assistance, please contact Mark Bruno at (406) 444-4588 or mabruno@mt.gov.

Enclosure: Clarification on the use of Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 Title II and Title III funds

Elections From Last Year (2006)

Montana

County	Title I	Title II	Title III	2006 Election	<u>Status</u>
Beaverhead	80.00%	5.00%	15.00%	100.00%	0
Broadwater	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0
Carbon	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0
Carter	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0
Cascade	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0
Chouteau	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0
Deer Lodge	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0
Fergus	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0
Flathead	85.00%	15.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0
Gallatin	85.00%	0.00%	15.00%	100.00%	0
Glacier	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0
Golden Valley	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0
Granite	80.00%	10.00%	10.00%	100.00%	0
Jefferson	80.00%	0.00%	20.00%	100.00%	0
Judith Basin	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0
Lake	85.00%	0.00%	15.00%	100.00%	0
Lewis&Clark	85.00%	15.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0
Lincoln	85.00%	12.38%	2.62%	100.00%	0
Madison	80.00%	20.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0
Meagher	80.00%	0.00%	20.00%	100.00%	0
Mineral	80.00%	10.00%	10.00%	100.00%	0
Missoula	85.00%	0.00%	15.00%	100.00%	0
Park	85.00%	0.00%	15.00%	100.00%	0
Pondera	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0
Powder River	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0
Powell	85.00%	15.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0
Ravalli	85.00%	15.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0
Rosebud	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0
Sanders	85.00%	11.60%	3.40%	100.00%	0
Silver Bow	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0
Stillwater	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0
Sweet Grass	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0
Teton	85.00%	0.00%	15.00%	100.00%	0
Wheatland	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0

11/15/05
**Clarification on the use of
Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000
Title II and Title III funds
for
Forest Service Centennial of Service Challenge Grants
and
National Forest Foundation (NFF) Grants**

Titles II & III of the Act (from Ingles, 2004)

Title II – Special Projects on Federal Lands: Title II funds are reserved for projects used to improve natural resource conditions on Federal lands as recommended by Resource Advisory Committees (RACs); the formation of which are also authorized in Title II. In essence, RACs are composed of citizens, usually from the county or counties of which they are comprised, for the purpose of making recommendations for projects to be completed on or adjacent to Federal lands.

Title III – County Projects: According to § 302 (b) of the Act, Title III funds are controlled by county governments and are limited to the following prescribed actions:

- Search, rescue, and emergency services,
- Community service work camps,
- Easement purchases,
- Forest-related educational opportunities,
- Fire prevention and county planning, and
- Community forestry (the Act states that “A county may use these funds towards non-Federal cost-share requirements of the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act”).

Unlike Title II projects, which are recommended by citizens, Title III project funding is solely under the discretion of the county. One important distinction between Title II funds and Title III funds is that Title II moneys remain in the Federal Treasury while Title III funds are paid directly to states (and subsequently to counties).

FY 06 Centennial of Service Challenge Grants

One of the “Draft Questions and Answers” issued on September 7, 2005 specifically addressed the use of Title II funds:

10. Can we use Recreation Fee Demo funds or County Payments for Centennial projects? No. Those are Forest Service funds, and are not eligible as matching funds. However, these funds can be used to supplement Centennial funds.

It should be noted that while the use of Title II funds is not allowed, the use of Title III funds is acceptable, if the project meets one of the authorized uses listed above. Finally,

remember that funding of Title III projects is approved by the county and not Resource Advisory Committees (RACs). RACs are only authorized to recommend projects under Title II.

NFF Matching Awards Program

As with Centennial of Service Challenge grants, Title II funds may not be used as a non-federal match for the NFF Matching Awards Program. However, as stated above, the use of Title III funds is acceptable if the project meets one of the authorized uses listed above. For all other requirements please refer NFF's website:

http://www.natlforests.org/consp_04_map.html

Should you have any questions concerning this clarification, please contact Debra Whittall at 202-205-0967 or via email at: dwhittall@fs.fed.us

FY 2007 PAYMENTS TO STATES ELECTION FORM

RETURN THIS FORM

Contact Information:

Mail

E-Mail

Fax

Attn: Mark Bruno
(406) 444-4588

mabruno@mt.gov

(406) 444-4670

Budget Analyst

Governor's Office of Budget and Program Planning

P.O. Box 200802

Helena, MT 59620-0802

County Name:

Preparer's Name:

Preparer's Phone Number:

Preparer's Address:

Preparer's E-Mail:

(a)	(b)	(c)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)
Entry No.	County Name	National Forest	Title I (80-85%)	Title II (0-20%)	Title III (0-20%)	Total % (Must Equal 100%)
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						

1. For Counties receiving greater than \$100,000, Title II + Title III must be 15% to 20%
2. Title II fund are for those counties that have Resource Advisory Committees (RAC) or intend to establish a RAC.